



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

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INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, AUSTRALIA, DECEMBER 1980

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Geoff Winter on Canberra (062) 52 6576 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra (062) 52 6627 or State offices.

MAIN FEATURES

The figures below refer to industrial disputes involving stoppages of 10 man-days or more.

Approximately 125,700 working days were lost by 61,300 workers involved in 208 disputes during December 1980.

The main disputes involved electricity supply employees in New South Wales and meat products employees in Victoria.

In the year 1980 an estimated 1.2 million workers involved in disputes lost 3.3 million working days and \$151.5 million in wages.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

More detailed information about disputes appears in the quarterly publication *Industrial Disputes, Australia* (6322.0).

2. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC), described in *Australian Standard Industrial Classification 1978*, Vol. 1 (1201.0).

Coverage

3. The statistics refer only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more. Workers involved include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages (e.g. those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving a broad measure of the extent of stoppages of work (as defined).

4. Stoppages of work occurring at different times and at different establishments, but having a common cause may be regarded as one industrial dispute. However, an industrial dispute occurring in more than one State is counted as a separate dispute in each State. The monthly statistics refer to all disputes operative in the month, including those disputes that commenced in previous months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Average days lost per worker involved on a monthly basis are not comparable with the yearly averages, because workers involved are included in each month in which they are involved in disputes, while they are counted once only for each dispute in the annual statistics.

Related publications

5. Users may also wish to refer to the following publication:

Industrial Disputes, Australia (6322.0)—quarterly and annual.

6. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

p preliminary—figure subject to revision

r revised

— nil or rounded to zero.

7. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

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TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost		Estimated loss in wages(a) (\$'000)
	Commenced in period	Total(a)	Newly involved(b)	Total(a)	Number(a) ('000)	Average days per worker involved(c)	
1978	2,276	2,277	1,075.6	1,075.6	2,130.8	2.0	78,404
1979	2,040	2,042	1,861.6	1,862.9	3,964.4	2.1	148,614
1980 p	2,408	2,417	1,162.1	1,169.7	3,310.0	2.8	151,538
1979—							
November	210	239	102.3	121.0	195.3	1.6	7,925
December	75	111	14.7	31.3	58.8	1.9	2,460
1980—							
January	144	153	33.0	40.2	116.1	2.9	4,693
February	213	258	230.0	250.6	419.2	1.7	17,359
March	220	273	214.0	348.5	535.3	1.5	21,542
April	140	172	40.2	65.0	132.4	2.6	6,547
May	171	222	177.9	207.8	409.2	2.0	19,228
June	170	227	59.3	104.8	219.4	2.1	10,120
July	222	271	52.9	135.8	318.3	2.3	16,317
August	r201	252	74.8	141.1	316.5	2.2	15,791
September	263	307	61.0	112.0	213.9	1.9	10,056
October p	284	345	75.8	135.7	254.2	1.9	11,387
November p	r240	r309	r104.9	r129.8	r250.0	r1.9	r12,286
December p	140	208	38.5	61.3	125.7	2.0	6,212

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Comprises workers involved in disputes which commenced during the month and additional workers involved in disputes which continued from the previous month. (c) Monthly figures are not comparable with yearly figures.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES(a) : INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST
('000)

Period	Manufacturing				Transport and storage; communication				All industries (b)
	Mining		Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other	Construction	Stevedoring services	Other	Other	
	Coal	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	
1978	142.3	125.1	732.1	490.2	134.1	122.9	166.9	217.2	2,130.8
1979	232.6	283.6	929.7	749.0	359.7	114.3	435.8	859.7	3,964.4
1980 p	710.1	205.8	614.7	720.5	215.3	64.3	142.2	637.2	3,310.0
1979—									
November	22.4	19.3	26.4	65.1	22.5	3.0	6.1	30.6	195.3
December	2.9	5.8	7.4	23.9	1.8	4.0	2.7	10.3	58.8
1980—									
January	10.3	6.4	10.8	49.0	6.9	7.4	2.4	23.0	116.1
February	106.1	14.9	67.8	57.8	12.0	5.7	51.4	103.5	419.2
March	47.4	15.4	142.8	139.6	23.3	9.5	4.1	153.3	535.3
April	50.8	26.9	14.5	11.9	10.6	2.9	1.4	13.5	132.4
May	150.7	13.9	93.5	92.7	17.8	4.7	18.8	17.1	409.2
June	21.4	4.5	24.0	77.5	17.9	7.2	14.6	52.2	219.4
July	137.2	5.9	39.4	58.7	34.9	4.0	3.6	34.5	318.3
August	108.2	11.7	58.0	44.7	26.5	16.8	21.0	29.5	316.5
September	47.0	15.6	52.4	31.3	15.1	1.2	6.3	44.9	213.9
October p	15.7	40.7	41.6	61.6	35.3	1.0	8.4	49.8	254.2
November p	9.7	r29.5	40.1	r64.9	9.0	3.0	7.2	86.4	r250.0
December p	5.5	20.2	29.7	30.9	8.6	0.8	3.9	26.1	125.7

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) ASIC divisions A, D, F, I to L.

TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES(a) : WORKING DAYS LOST
('000)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.(b)
1978	970.8	468.1	360.3	79.1	197.9	35.4	2,130.8
1979	1,369.9	1,486.1	467.9	186.5	348.1	59.8	3,964.4
1980 p	1,204.5	1,110.1	618.0	59.4	190.9	91.5	3,310.0
1979—							
November	70.1	86.5	18.2	11.0	3.7	3.4	195.3
December	17.4	25.7	10.9	0.5	3.1	0.6	58.8
1980—							
January	49.8	41.9	5.8	4.5	11.9	1.9	116.1
February	189.8	172.7	39.5	2.9	10.1	2.7	419.2
March	118.8	368.4	30.5	3.2	9.9	3.3	535.3
April	62.2	16.1	13.6	1.8	30.3	-	132.4
May	168.3	124.8	73.0	11.8	15.1	8.8	409.2
June	85.4	42.0	39.2	9.6	38.9	2.1	219.4
July	114.0	46.5	130.4	6.3	16.1	4.0	318.3
August	70.8	94.6	134.3	2.9	4.3	7.1	316.5
September	67.1	60.1	57.5	2.2	14.0	9.7	213.9
October p	104.7	47.0	46.6	7.0	13.3	34.0	254.2
November p	r120.8	r55.5	33.6	7.1	r14.5	17.0	r250.0
December p	53.0	40.6	13.9	0.2	12.6	0.9	125.7

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.